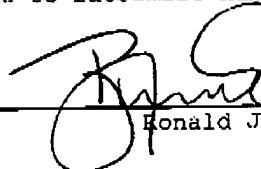


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/646,810 Confirmation No. 1318
Applicant : Naoki IMACHI et al.
Filed : August 25, 2003
TC/A.U. : 1745
Examiner : Helen O. Chu
Dkt. No. : SNY-039
Cust. No. : 20374

I hereby certify that this paper is being
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Ronald J. Kubovcik

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
TO THE OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 30, 2007

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 31, 2007

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 30, 2007. A petition for a one-month extension of the period for responding to the Action is being filed concurrently herewith.

Please amend the application as directed below and consider the remarks that follow.

P:\12-07\snv-039-pno-xesp-111.wpd